AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A catalyst for purifying exhaust gases, comprising a catalyst component containing copper oxide, a mixture of ZSM-5 zeolite and zeolite β, and an oxide of ~~at least one element selected from the group consisting of~~ magnesium ~~and calcium~~, wherein a mass ratio of ZSM-5 zeolite to zeolite β is in the range of 1:1 to 10:1.

2. (Currently amended) A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein an amount of the oxide of ~~at least one element selected from the group consisting of~~ magnesium ~~and calcium~~ is in the range of 0.1 - 1 part by weight based on 1 part by weight of the copper oxide.

3. (Previously presented) A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein an amount of the copper oxide is in the range of 3 - 14 g, and an amount of the zeolite member is in the range of 50 - 300 g, based on 1 liter of a refractory three dimensional structure.

4. (Previously presented) A process for purifying an exhaust gas, which comprises exposing an exhaust gas purifying catalyst set forth in claim 1 to the exhaust gas, wherein a molar ratio of hydrocarbon to nitrogen oxides is 1 - 20:1.

5. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 4, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.

6. (Previously presented) A catalyst according to claim 2, wherein an amount of the copper oxide is in the range of 3 - 14 g, and an amount of the zeolite

member is in the range of 50 - 300 g, based on 1 liter of a refractory three dimensional structure.

7. (Previously presented) A process for purifying an exhaust gas, which comprises exposing an exhaust gas purifying catalyst set forth in claim 2 to the exhaust gas, wherein a molar ratio of hydrocarbon to nitrogen oxides is 1 - 20:1.

8. (Previously presented) A process for purifying an exhaust gas, which comprises exposing an exhaust gas purifying catalyst set forth in claim 3 to the exhaust gas, wherein a molar ratio of hydrocarbon to nitrogen oxides is 1 - 20:1.

9. (Previously presented) A process for purifying an exhaust gas, which comprises exposing an exhaust gas purifying catalyst set forth in claim 6 to the exhaust gas, wherein a molar ratio of hydrocarbon to nitrogen oxides is 1 - 20:1.

10. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.

11. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 2, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.

12. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 3, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.

13. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 6, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.

14. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 7, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.

15. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 8, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.

16. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 9, wherein the exhaust gas is from a diesel engine.